

on the hijacked planes, others worked at the World Trade Center or Pentagon that day and were killed or had to flee for their lives. Airplanes headed to Philadelphia were diverted to Canada, and the high-rise offices were evacuated with bomb threats. Located between New York, D.C., and Shanksville, Pennsylvania, our area keenly felt like the geographic center of the three airplane attacks.

I am proud to cosponsor H.R. 2278, which authorizes the National Park Service to designate the September 11 National Memorial Trail route linking the Memorial and Museum in New York to the Pentagon Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, and the Flight 93 National Memorial in Somerset County. The 9/11 Memorial Trail will allow us all not to just engage with the tragedy of that terrorist attack, but also to heal from it.

In Pennsylvania's Fifth District, the Memorial Trail will link parts of the Schuylkill River Trail, Kingsessing, the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge, and move on through Delaware County.

This bill passed the House with great bipartisan support, and I urge the Senate to take it up before the 20th anniversary of September 11.

EFFECTS OF INFLATION

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, following months of disappointing jobs reports, rising inflation, and irresponsible messaging on how to combat the COVID-19 virus, the American people know that Democrat policies are to blame for the rising inflation that our Nation is facing.

Today, Americans are making less money than they were 1 year ago. With annualized real wages down nearly 4 percent, it is families, not politicians that are feeling the effects of President Biden's failed economic policies. Inflation, very simply, is taxation, and it has increased every month since President Biden has taken office.

While Democrats in Congress mocked concerns about rising inflation, we saw the effects that this crisis is having at the gas station and at the grocery store. Now, as experts warn that the effects of inflation may last longer than anticipated, President Biden has suggested flooding our economy with even more wasteful spending. Urging \$100 bribes for individuals to get vaccinated and spending billions of dollars for social programs will not fix our broken economy.

The American people know that this is a failure, and they know that Democrat policy is to blame.

RECOGNIZING RONNIE SMITH

(Mr. BUTTERFIELD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the important work being done all across North Carolina to reduce food insecurity.

I commend the outgoing president of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, Ronnie Smith, for his leadership on this effort. Ronnie is also chair of the Martin County Board of Commissioners, a constituent, and a good friend.

Under Ronnie's leadership, the association's Resilience Task Force was formed to develop local strategies to promote food system resilience. The task force recently released a report to help counties deepen relationships with the local food banks, improve efforts to transport food to homes, and strengthen local food sources to reduce food insecurity.

To date, nearly a quarter of North Carolina's counties have passed resolutions to support the initiative. This year, 42 million people nationwide will experience food insecurity.

Madam Speaker, I applaud President Ronnie Smith's leadership. I applaud him for his leadership and commend him and the members of the Resilience Task Force for their hard work in combating food insecurity in North Carolina. Thank you, Commissioner Ronnie Smith.

REJECT TYRANNY

(Mr. CAWTHORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CAWTHORN. Madam Speaker, you are not God. Your will does not bend the forests or shake the mountains. And let me assure you, your will does not bow the knee of millions of my countrymen who refuse to heed your calloused command.

To threaten arrest on others for their own personal medical decisions is nothing short of a medical apartheid, and I will not let it stand. For if I am to cowardly bend a knee here, like those on the left wish, then what is to stop you all from taking your tyranny to the rest of this country that I love?

How dare anyone in this institution attempt to dictate to the patriots of my staff how they may live their lives. For one to think that because they have the title "honorable" attached to their name means that they may dictate what others may say and think repulses me.

What makes this Nation special is that in this free land the people are the royalty. So arrest us if you will, but I will not cower and I will not bend.

Madam Speaker, you have come to take away our liberties but, Madam Speaker, in this country you are outnumbered.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 4390

Mr. CAWTHORN. Madam Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of the bill, H.R. 4390.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is accepted.

PROTECTING VOTING RIGHTS FOR SENIORS

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to an urgent problem threatening Texas seniors' availability to vote.

One in every three States in our country have passed voting restriction laws this year. This is alarming.

New voting restrictions can threaten seniors, like my constituent, Earlene Sullivan, who turned 102 years old recently. Earlene is a beloved member of our community and served our county as a presiding judge. She oversaw elections and has voted all her life.

Today, Earlene votes by mail with the help of her daughter, Catherine. But the GOP's false claims on ballot harvesting have already caused a rift in her family.

Proposed voting restrictions in Texas, such as stricter driver's license and Social Security verification requirements, could threaten Earlene's and millions of seniors' ability to vote by mail.

Madam Speaker, this is unacceptable. Congress must pass voting rights for all Americans by passing H.R. 1 and H.R. 4.

DO NOT FORGET THE SOUTHERN BORDER CRISIS

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, as we head into the 6- or 7-week break, it is important that Americans and Congress not forget the number one crisis facing this Nation, and that is the takeover of our southern border by Mexican drug gangs.

Right now, the drug gangs, because we are kind of tardy at guarding the border, escort people into Mexico, escort people through buses and trains to the Rio Grande River, put wristbands on these people so they know which gang they are associated with and which type of tour they bought, and have them carry drugs across the Rio Grande.

If our Border Patrol tries to stop people crossing the river, they throw little children in the Rio Grande so our Border Patrol has to go there. They eventually turn these people over to Border Patrol on the southern border, where they are turned over to nongovernmental organizations that put them in hotels. These hotels are not secure, so even if you have COVID, you are let out into the country.

They hold relatives hostage in Central America and Mexico so that the people who come here have to pay money to get their entry into this country, from \$3,000 to \$20,000.